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First name: Emerald

Last name: LaFortune

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I was born and raised in Northern Idaho and went to school at the University of Montana in Missoula. The Nez Perce Clearwater is one of my favorite forest's and I thank you for your stewardship so far.

As a longtime Idahoan, I would like to see the entire Meadow Creek watershed protected as wilderness. This significant tributary to the Selway River includes populations of steelhead, salmon, cutthroat trout, and bull trout. Furthermore, the native trout in Meadow Creek have a high level of genetic diversity than any other watershed in the Rocky Mountains. Wilderness designation will protect this valuable fishery.

The Mallard-Larkins Area is another important candidate for wilderness. This area is a favorite destination for primitive backcountry recreation. The trails are great for hiking and backpacking. There are fewer and fewer places to enjoy the quiet solitude of wilderness. The Mallard-Larkins is one such place.

Finally, I would like to see the North Fork and South Fork Clearwater Rivers protect as wild and scenic. Wild and scenic rivers designations would ensure that no one can build a dam or divert water from these rivers. I would hate to see that happen. The North Fork is a blue-ribbon cutthroat trout river. The South Fork has large steelhead. Please protect them.